

Category #43:

The Guidelines should reduce the burden on the Laws required school reporting requirements.

State Response:

OGS is already working with the State Education Department to develop reporting requirements. The reporting requirement will not be burdensome, but still must provide necessary information to meet the intent of the legislation.

Frequently Asked Public Comment:

Guideline Section VII. Reporting Requirements

--With regard to reporting requirements, every effort should be made to minimize the reporting burden on district personnel. Custodial staff time and resources must not be diverted from their primary objective of maintaining healthy, safe environments for children to learn in.

(Diane S. Ward, Governmental Relations Representative, NYS School Boards Association)

--Reporting and Tracking

We recommend that the document include information on how the requirement for SED and OGS to issue the report in green cleaning would impact the schools and the vendor community. Is there information that schools and vendors should track, collect and report to you in order to help you comply with your reporting requirement?

We suggest that you require that all approved vendors agree to provide schools with a solid training program and a record of all purchases (including, but not limited to, product types, quantities, cost, etc.) and assist them in quantifying the results. In fact, vendors may be required to report all sales of “green” cleaning products to New York State schools as a pre-requisite of remaining on the qualified product list. Alternatively, you could ask schools to provide information on their purchases.

The Guidelines may include reporting templates for vendors and/or schools to address this issue.

Massachusetts will be happy to provide sample reporting templates we use.

(Marcia Deegler, Operational Services Division, Environmental Purchasing Program Manager and Dmitriy Nikolayev, Operational Services Division, Deputy Procurement Team Leader, Facilities)